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ATLANTA, GA., SEPTEMBER 8, 1890.

The Copyright Bill and the South.

There is no other section more interested in the success of the copyright bill than the south. For years, those who represent the best thought of this section have been writing about the necessity of developing a distinctive southern literature—a literature that would be powerful enough and popular enough to offset the delusions and misrepresentations that have gone abroad respecting the south, its people and its civilization. And yet, in the face of this demand, when a measure comes before congress, having for its purpose the development of American literature by placing foreign authors, both at home and abroad, nine Georgia congressmen and a great many others representing southern districts, vote squarely against it.

What is the meaning of this opposition? Is it due to ignorance of the purpose of the bill, or to prejudice against the so-called profession of authorship? We remember that Simon Cameron, and Boss Tweed, and several other notorious political lions, had a great contempt for "the d-d literary fellows," but we have never been able to see why any southern congressman, no matter how narrow-minded or hide-bound he might be, should entertain a prejudice against literature or against those who are moved by impulse or inclination to engage in it.

Individually, the men who make literature do not amount to much. They are not, for instance, very active politicians; they do not stand around the corners with votes or "influence" for sale; they do not appear on election days in the guise of heelers and touters; they do not, in a general way, go upon the stump and make the "welkin ring;" and they do not appear in Washington, even in support of this bill, which is of great importance to their guild and to the country at large, with a loud lobby behind them. No doubt these things are against them; they are not in the political swim, as the phrase goes; and they lack the experience necessary to give them a hold on the politicians.

Nevertheless, it does seem to us that the southern congressmen, especially those of Georgia, ought to overlook these things in view of the objects of the bill. It has been remarked by competent critics that the literary development of the south since the war has been phenomenal, and it is conceded that Georgia leads the rest of the south in this as in other things. But the southern authors are handicapped, and even the most successful are placed at a disadvantage. They are the victims of piracy both at home and abroad. At home they find the literary market full of books that are cheap because they are stolen; abroad, they find themselves the victims of piracy, and between the syndicates of thieves they have no opportunity to pursue their profession with profit. That southern literature has made any progress at all under these conditions is an evidence that it would be fostered into new life by an international copyright bill.

What objections can the nine Georgia congressmen who voted against the copyright bill sometime ago have to the development of southern literature? We do not allude here to the dishonesty of the present system. To steal and sell a book that belongs to another man is theft, pure and simple, and that all that need be said about it. But all this apart, and on general principles, we do not see why any reasonably intelligent southern man cannot see his way clear to supporting a bill that will tend to foster and encourage southern literature.

Civilized at Last.

Our esteemed contemporary, The Omaha World-Herald, says that there has been an idea abroad that the American Indian would never be thoroughly civilized or make a good citizen of the United States. But the World-Herald informs us that this is a great mistake, and that the Omaha Indians have "endured a test of citizenship which cannot be questioned."

Although these Indians have never been inside a college, and are entirely without high-school advantages, they have graduated into the best baseball players in that section, and have whipped their pale-faced brethren in every game played with them.

This, in the opinion of our Omaha contemporary, entitles the Indian to national recognition. It has been a long time coming, but he has proved his worth at last, and the Harvard and Princeton graduates can now reach over and shake him heartily by the hand.

The government's attitude toward the Indians has been "three strikes and out;" but now that he has been thoroughly Americanized, it will have to pursue a different policy with him.

An International Railway.
 Our advices from Washington state that during the coming winter there will probably be a meeting of an international railway commission composed of members from the United States, Mexico, and Central and South America.

It will be recalled that the Pan-American congress recommended such a commission to project and survey a continuous railway line connecting the states of the three Americas. Some of the Central and South American states have promptly appointed commissioners, and our congress is expected to pass a bill at an early day providing for the appointment of representatives from this country.

This magnificent scheme has been advocated by Mr. Blaine from the start, and there is every reason to believe that in a few years it will become an accomplished fact. The difficulties in the way are not of a discouraging nature. The construction of links to connect the Mexican line with the systems in Central and South America would

give us an international system of inestimable value as a transportation factor.

Undoubtedly this is the best way to secure intimate commercial relations with the countries south of us. If the Pan-American congress leaves no other result behind it the world will have good cause to remember it. When a man can start from Canada, and travel without changing cars into the very heart of South America the people of the two continents will be kept busy manufacturing and trading with each other. If this country can secure a commanding foothold in these southern markets no panic or commercial depression need be feared for a century to come. Our products will find ready sale, and our factories and furnaces will be kept running on full time to supply the demand.

This is of far more importance than any political question. There will be business, money, prosperity in it. By all means, let the international railway be pushed forward to completion.

Quinine.

Matt Quay, representing two or three firms in New York and Philadelphia, made an effort the other day to take quinine from the free list in order that it might be restored to its old place among the dutiable articles in the tariff schedule.

The attempt was unsuccessful, but it is worth noting. When THE CONSTITUTION, eight or nine years ago, opened the fight on the quinine duty, the sulphate of quinine was selling from \$4 to \$6 an ounce. The price was so high that reputable druggists complained that they could not afford to fill for poor people the prescriptions of the physicians. The high price of quinine was not only a burden on the rich and a privation to the poor, but it resulted in frauds of the most barefaced kind.

In hundreds of cases prescriptions that called for the sulphate or bisulphate of quinine, were filled by substituting cinchona, and there is no knowing how much suffering was the result. For a long time THE CONSTITUTION had the fight to itself, but it was reinforced after awhile, and the duty was removed.

The manufacturers had claimed that the removal of this duty would destroy the factories in this country and thus result in increasing the price. Powers & Weightman sent out a good deal of literature to this effect; but the two or three American factories were not destroyed, and the price fell until it reached 32 cents an ounce.

The attempt of the republican leader to re-establish the quinine tax on the sick and the poor is characteristic of the corrupt party he represents.

The Habit of Rapid Work.

Edward Everett Hale, in an article in The Forum, expresses his surprise that clergymen should spend so much time, frequently a week, in composing a sermon of not more than 3,500 words.

The average newspaper man, Mr. Hale says, writes easily and rapidly. He has to do it or get left. He must have his information in his head, or at hand. He may be required late at night to write a column about a great man or a political event, and he cannot spend a week thinking the matter over.

The newspaper man, too, knows that he will have no chance to revise his copy when he sends it late to the compositors, page by page. So he writes carefully, and attends to the paragraphing and punctuation.

It will strike the preacher that this work is at high pressure. So it is, but it becomes a habit. When writers know that they must work in this way, they think quickly and clearly, and put the right word in the right place without the slightest hesitation.

The newspaper habit of rapid writing results in fairly good work that will compare favorably with the more deliberate compositions of the preachers. When a thing must be done, that settles it.

It will not do to sneer at this rapid writing for the newspapers. It moves the world—entertains, instructs and shapes public opinion. It gets into histories and other books, and in many instances is a model of style.

Yet the average newspaper man will write 700,000 words of good matter in a year, and stick to his work without a vacation, while the preacher has to take a month or two off every year.

It is largely a matter of habit. Under somewhat similar conditions the preachers would do in one day the work that now stretches out through the week, and the probability is that there would be no loss in quality and quantity. In this rapid age we must cultivate the habit of rapid thinking and rapid action.

Newspapers and News.

At the recent session of the American Social Science Association, Dr. Russell, an eminent medical expert whose specialty is various diseases, read an interesting essay on sensational journalism.

The doctor, in giving a chapter from his own experience, mentioned the following startling case:

A lady patient, who had not come into dinner suddenly came hurrying through the hall with the daily paper in her hand and a horrified expression on her face. Mistaking the cause I sprang to my feet, snatched the paper, and demanded silence. Of course, this episode startled and interested all my family, and only by decided action did we prevent the matter quiet. A few days before a hopeless dyspepsia had left my care, and by a strange fatality had met her death by strychnine. This was elaborately reported in the daily papers, and my patient had chanced upon. Intense suicidal impulse took possession of her, and in a few days she met death by her own hand, and another person, a friend of both parties, a few days later, reading the same account, also passed out of life. Here were two deaths, in different parts of the state, very directly traceable to the wretched energy of our newspapers, which impels them to publish such stories.

If this incident teaches anything, it is that newspapers are not published for insane people, nervous wrecks, and children. They are printed for full-grown, healthy men and women, whose minds are so well balanced that they will not be overwhelmed by the ordinary news of the day. But the doctor had a good deal more to say on the same line, and in treating another branch of the subject he said:

I will mention the effect produced upon sensitive and nervous people by the newspaper reports of great storms and cyclones. This must be within the experience of us all. When our daily papers rehash with enthusiasm the roar of the wind, the terrifying flashes of lightning, the crash of thunder and the shrieks of the storm victim, the readers of that journal are already in a state of great fright when next a black and ominous cloud lifts above the horizon. Thousands of persons find the summer season, one of terror and anxiety rather than delight from this excessive apprehension. This mental nervousness grows with what it feeds upon. These persons like to rehearse the reports of storms, and seem to find

pleasure in their own fears. Many of this class actually show tangible physical symptoms of this nervous condition, which has even been dignified by Board with its special name astrophobia. Friends have told me that whole districts in the cyclone country at the west are in a state of terror at times, expecting every moment the giant fall to threaten out of existence themselves and all their surroundings.

What would this eminent specialist have the newspapers do? First, he objects to having the terrible deeds of men reported, and then he intimates that the wilder moods of nature must not be chronicled as there is danger of frightening somebody.

The majority of readers may say that Dr. Russell goes too far. Suicides, murders, cyclones and earthquakes may be sensational, but they are legitimate news. If it is wrong to report them in print, it is wrong to speak of them in conversation, because a good talker in giving a description of such occurrences would run the risk of alarming his timid listeners. Nor will it do to insist upon a brief and tame record of exciting events.

People demand graphic writing in their newspapers, and when a journalist treats a subject that is proper for publication, it is his duty to make it interesting. Because some people are weak-minded and the victims of shattered nerves is no reason why the entire world should be left in the dark concerning the events of the day.

Doubtless this medical expert is an old-fashioned reader who scorns news, and would like to see the editorial page regain the prominence and the influence it once enjoyed. He will never see such journalism again. The elder Bennett smashed it fifty years ago. That born genius and prince of journalists early in life formulated his views in this maxim: "The more news a journal has, the more subscribers, and the more subscribers, the more advertisers."

All the most successful newspapers of the world are on this line, but they have amply compensated their readers for the changed status of the editorial page. They interview rulers and statesmen, compete with the magazines for the best literature, and secure in special articles from famous men and women much of the matter that was formerly written in the shape of editorials.

The sum and substance of the whole matter is that the publication of the news is the primary object of a newspaper. If the news is given in its bright side, and the men who write for the public cannot ignore or conceal the facts of the case. If they attempt to suppress legitimate news, or make it appear unimportant, they are incompetent or dishonest journalists, no matter what their motives may be.

Another Indian Swindle.

Poor Lo seldom shows up in the newspapers now; he is drifting away from us, and we hear but little of him. But he turns up now in South Dakota, and claims the attention of the government.

Mr. A. T. Lea, who was detailed to take the census at the Rosebud agency, returned 5,100 men, women and children as being located there.

The clerks in the Indian bureau at Washington got to figuring and looking over their books, and they found that for the last seven years the agent at Rosebud has required and received rations for 7,500 Indians.

Then the government was informed that an epidemic had swept off a great many of the Indians last year. But the doctors reached the scene at this juncture, and they declared that only nineteen had died during the time specified.

It is understood that an investigation has been ordered, for it is a matter of curiosity as to what became of the surplus supplies. And while this investigation is going on, it might properly extend to other agencies, where the Indians are pensioners on the government's bounty.

Poor Lo has a hard road to travel; he is after the white man's scalp only when he is driven to it; but the white man is hot on his trail in peace as well as in war.

If CANNON is as familiar in his remarks at home as he is in public, his family must have a lively time of it.

THE HARMONY of the republican party is similar to that at a colored cake-walk when the master of ceremonies goes down into his breeches after a razor.

REED and Lodge were introduced in Boston the other day as men who are not partisans. This shows that the Boston liar is actively engaged in politics.

THE SECTIONALISTS of congress show their claws at every opportunity. In the senate the other day they voted to put binding twine, used by western farmers, on the free list, but they refused to take the duty off of bagging used by the farmers of the south.

THE NEW YORK SUN goes to the length of printing a picture of Cassion's dirty mouth in its editorial columns. It is an offensive looking object even when closed.

JOHN SHERMAN, not to be outdone by Brother Blaine, has a little reciprocity scheme of his own. He wants to put down his dictionary and compose another scheme.

SENATOR MORGAN, of Alabama, proposes a duty of 3 per cent on asses. This is intended to prevent accessions to the republican party.

EDITORIAL COMMENT.

THE NEW YORK JUDGE who committed Mr. Alton W. Tourge to jail thirty-five days for contempt of court may be within the law, but his action was an unnecessary piece of brutality. It seems that the court, under a judgment against the lady's husband, ordered her to turn over \$2,500 given to her by Tourge ten years ago. Mrs. Tourge's affidavit that she had none of the money is conclusive. She received the money innocently, and spent it. To send her to prison because she cannot furnish that amount to pay her husband's debts is oppressive and unjust.

W. G. Cloutier is a candidate for treasurer of Rockdale county.

Mr. W. D. Wells is making a good race for the legislature in Lee county. He is opposed by Odum, White and Johnson, colored.

The Home Daily Herald announces that Captain John J. Say, of Rome, is making the race for the legislature as an "unaffiliated Jeffersonian organized democrat."

Mr. J. H. Hunter is a candidate for sheriff of Brooks county.

Frank Johnson, colored, republican, has been nominated for the legislature in Lee county.

Mr. Thomas R. Hudson says that he has never consented to become a candidate for sheriff of Laurens county, though often requested to do so, and that he will not be in the race.

In Brooks county the candidates for the legislature will each select a manager of election in the various precincts, and the two thus selected will select the third.

Quitman Press: It is rumored that a number of radical colored voters will be marched to the polls in several precincts on the 17th instant.

With his leading editorialists, but we take pleasure in supplying the omission, and stand ready, at any time, to make up for his lapse of his hands. We don't mind furnishing an overworked contemporary with a few gratuitous lines, especially when he is spreading our editorial broadcast over the great west with pride and exultation. It is bound to have good editorialists, no matter whence they come.

THE REV. J. Z. SMITH, of Reno, Kansas, counted a widow of forty-five. As he is sixty-five himself, he thought that the disparity of ages was too great. The matter was brought to the notice of the white caps, and on Wednesday night they captured the preacher, and took him to the woods, where they stripped him, and fastened him to the ground with arms and legs extended, and then whipped him with willow switches. Smith's recovery is doubtful. He is a man of good character, and the outrage is the sensation of the day in Kansas.

THE WASHINGTON POST says: "The American quinine manufacturers are making an effort to have the drug taken off the free list and the former duty of 25 per cent restored. The quinine manufacturers have increased so largely of late years, most of it now coming from the East Indies instead of South America, that the price per ounce has been reduced from \$2 to 25 or 30 cents, and the manufacturers demand that the duty be restored to the 25 per cent duty would add but 5 or 6 cents to the price, and that they stand greatly in need of protection against the foreign article. It does not appear, however, that any of them think of going out of business for want of it. Probabilities are that quinine will be left where it is, as an article that has come to be one of the necessities of life. To increase its price would be to deprive the poor of a remedy for one of the most common ailments of the tropics, and it is not likely that the government will be responsible for it shaking up that all the quinine in the country couldn't cure."

WILLIAM M. BUTTS, a well-known publisher in Baltimore, was arrested a few nights ago and locked up. He was supposed to be drunk, but he had taken more than his share of the medicine. The police caught him to do without the proper attention. Mr. Butts was not a drinking man, and the case attracts considerable attention.

Every book catalogue contains announcements of new books on political economy and manuals professing to teach people how to make money. These books are not worth the paper they are written on. The great majority of our statesmen and capitalists never read one of them. Judicious industry, economy and good judgment in utilizing opportunities are the foundation of prosperity. Just at present it is popular to talk of the depression of the farming interests. The fact is, they are always depressed, and the same is true of other interests. Only a few men get rich in the professions and in business, and only a few get rich in agriculture. It has always been so, and always will be so. But the fact that farmers pay a high interest and bear many burdens, and still live, goes to show that their occupation is a safe one. The unfortunates who had similar risks and expenses would be completely wrecked in a very short time. The country is full of broken-down professional and business men, but there are comparatively few farmers who lose everything, and die paupers.

A SEPTEMBER BREEZE.

The barometric season is at its height, and the Georgia editors are rejoicing.

The Savannah Local will get out a fall trade edition. The Local is little, but lively.

Very few of the Georgia editors use eyeglasses. It requires a telescope to locate the ordinary delinquent.

The Tennille Enterprise indulges in the following practical poetry:

An editor and a preacher
 Were walking down an aisle,
 The editor at the children's side,
 And the ladies, and their style.

The preacher to the editor:
 "See the lady over there?"
 She is coming to the meetings
 But has never paid her fare."

The editor to the preacher:
 "Don't grumble about your rent;
 Yonder's one of my subscribers
 Who has never paid a cent."

The Fayetteville News looks handsome in its new dress. Its editors are determined to give the people a bright and readable paper.

Editor Young, of The Greensboro Herald-Journal, is doing some of the best editorial work of his life. He strikes the bull's eye in every article.

Thus rhymes the editor of The Early Gentry News:

If you wish to see the editor
 Smile clean down to his collar,
 Just walk into his sanctum
 And leave a silver dollar.

Writes a Georgia editor: "We have resigned from the band and we now offer our brass horn for a club of ten subscribers. If the horn is played scientifically, we guarantee that it will keep any neighborhood awake seven nights in the week."

A burglar recently entered a Georgia editor's room. When he found out his mistake he subscribed to the paper and loaned the editor \$3.00.

Editor White is making his mark on the Louisville News and Farmer. A steady improvement is noticeable in the paper.

IN THE POLITICAL FIELD.

—The Darien Gazette says that Mr. S. W. Roberts, of The Sparta Independent, will be an applicant for the position of assistant keeper of the penitentiary.

—Primary elections will be held in each militia district of Fannin county on the 10th of September. By the republicans of that county, for the purpose of nominating a candidate for representative in the next general assembly of Georgia.

—L. Y. Osburn is a candidate for tax collector of Towns county.

—It is reported that there will be no change in the postoffice at Savannah, or at Brunswick, until the present incumbents have served out their full term of four years. A Morning News reporter was shown a letter from Colonel Buck to a gentleman from north Georgia, in answer to the direct question to Colonel Buck in a friendly letter, "Who will be the next postmaster of Savannah?" Colonel Buck replied: "I do not know who will be appointed postmaster of Savannah."

—Colonel George T. Hannah is the only announced candidate for the office of treasurer of Glascock county.

—A. B. Dickey is a candidate for the legislature from Fannin county.

—It is taken for granted that Mayor Price, of Macon, will be a candidate for re-election, and a dozen names are advanced as possible opponents of him. Among the names mentioned are Benjamin C. Smith, Daniel M. Gage, Hugh V. Washington, C. R. Willingham and Tom Try.

—The Quitman Press wants the whole state to know that the Brooks County Alliance has never departed from the original purpose of the organization.

—Brooks county's legislative primary occurs on September 17th, and the primary for county officers does not begin until December 1st.

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and allowed to vote in the legislative primary. With the full knowledge that one object in thus attempting to use negro votes, that is, if the rumor be true. That object is, to pave the way for an independent candidate, whose success would depend almost entirely upon radical votes.

—Hon. T. G. Yeazey, brother of Hon. T. J. Yeazey, Warren county's last representative, is a candidate for messenger of the house.

—Professor C. C. Lowe has been elected mayor of Gibson, T. S. Peoples, O. R. Laster, James Brannan and Z. T. Thigpen were elected aldermen.

GEORGIA NEWS NOTES.

—About 100,000 bushels of rice will be shipped from the Altamaha river this season.

—There is a cat in Athens that weighs about sixteen pounds. It is an immense, fat, and swallows an ordinary chicken without the slightest difficulty.

—Franklin is booming. She will in about a month have a regular line of steamers plowing the waters of her majestic old river.

—Mr. W. W. Thompson, the Smithville nurseryman, claims to have frequently sold shipments of his pears in the northern markets at 25 cents a pear.

—A movement is on foot to change the line between Thomas and Decatur counties. It is proposed to cut off five sections of lots on the eastern end of Decatur and annex them to Thomas.

—The celebrated Beech Grove plantation, situated about ten miles south of Lowndes, and comprising nearly 5,000 acres of level, fertile land, was sold last week to northern buyers for \$15,000. Ben Hill paid \$40,000 for this place about thirty years ago.

—The new and handsome quarters for the officers of the southwestern division of the Central railroad, at Smithville, are nearly completed, and it is expected that the offices will be removed on the 1st of October. The removal of these offices will increase Smithville's population by some thirty families.

—The Quitman Press says that statistics will show that five girl babies have been born in Quitman county during the past two years.

—Marshallville is building a new hotel, which will be completed by November 1st.

—Colonel A. S. Cutts, of Americus, has been appointed by Governor Gordon as one of the division commanders for the "big veterans' parade," which will come off in Atlanta during the Piedmont Exposition.

—The people of Albany are waking up on the question of the proposed location of the new line of the Georgia railroad. They have brought to the aid of the proposed line a large number of men, trying out their designs to convert the old Central freight depot into a passenger depot, and they are trying to avert it if possible.

—The Georgia county fair will be held at Ponca Tuesday and Wednesday, October 14th and 15th. Premiums will be paid in the following departments: Live stock, domestic industry, field crops, household work, orchard and garden products, children's work.

—Two more lodges of the Farmers' Alliance will be organized in Lumpkin county; one in Nimberville and the other in Jones' Creek district.

—The people of Cordele will soon have one of the prettiest opera houses in the state.

—It seems to be settled now that Albany will have a dummy line running before Christmas. Now with a brand-new union passenger depot, a first-class gymnasium, and a second national bank as possibilities of the immediate future, it looks boomy.

—Mr. J. H. Parker, of Marion county, says he will make four 400-pound bales of cotton, perhaps more, on one acre and a quarter. He has already sold one bale for 50 pounds of seed cotton out and says that he has not hardly begun.

—The Cordele shoe factory is a mammoth concern, and steps are now being taken to make it one of the largest shoe factories in the southern states.

—There is a great building boom in Sumter county, and the supply of mechanics falls short of the demand.

—The following notice appears in the Lincoln-ton News:

We, the undersigned citizens of Lincoln county, having been robbed and plundered by lawless negroes who have stolen our farm products and sold the same to merchants and others, hereby respectfully ask our neighbors to cease their traffic in seed cotton. Such traffic will ruin us, and we have and do hereby pledge ourselves to prosecute to the full extent of the law, any man, white or black, who after the publication of this notice shall buy seed cotton in the night, or in the day, from any cropper, without the written permission of the landlord, upon whose premises the tenant may reside. We have determined to attempt to enforce the law against the traffic in seed cotton, and call on all good citizens to aid us in enforcement. James J. R. Busey, Nathan Busey, L. E. Walsh, L. B. Myers, S. T. Moseley, R. L. Reid, James Tankersley, W. J. Ashby, R. R. Price, W. N. Busey, W. E. Parkman, W. D. Tutt, J. M. Price, S. R. Davis, H. M. Moore, G. M. Lane, L. M. Douglas, A. M. Dawson, F. W. Morris, M. G. Reese, C. M. May, M. H. Holloway, L. G. Flemming, R. R. Reid.

PARAGRAPHIC PENCILINGS.

Fifty years ago the Charltons, father and son, together with the Berries, the Habersham, the Jacksons, the Laws and others, were the lords of the Savannah bar.

Amongst these Robert M. Charlton achieved most distinction in literature.

In the palmy days of the old Knickerbocker Magazine, edited by Willis and Lewis Gaylord Clark, he was a frequent and popular contributor to its sunny pages. It was here that he published his "Lines to the Ogechee," a poem that has been honored with a place in some of the earlier collections of American poetry. But his best literary work in the Knickerbocker was a series of humorous sketches, entitled "Leaves from the Portfolio of a Georgia Lawyer." They are now well-nigh forgotten, but they were then eagerly enjoyed. As I recall them they were made up of incidents and adventures seen and experienced during the spring and fall readings on his judicial circuit.

One of them I remember with some distinctness. On one occasion Charlton and a brother lawyer were overtaken by a heavy rainstorm, and sought refuge in a piney woods cabin. On entering they found the cabin leaking badly because of its dilapidated roof. The household goods were piled in the only dry corner of the house. On top of a mattress stuffed with pine straw was the pater familias in the usual garb of a wiregrass cracker. He was endeavoring to extract music from a fiddle that was not a Cremona, and it was usually seen that he was neither a Viennese nor a Paganini.

